

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 1, line 12 as follows:

Networking architectures such as InfiniBand support multicast traffic in which one node issues or forwards a communication to multiple other nodes in a specified multicast group. In InfiniBand, network nodes include switches and channel adapters. Both types of nodes can be members of a multicast group. A group member may be configured to receive all multicast communications sent by other members and may also issue multicast communications. Or, a member may be configured to only send multicast communications, ~~if~~in which case it is not an end-consumer of the group's multicast communications.

Please amend the Abstract on page 33 as follows:

A system and method for efficiently managing membership in a multicast communication group. The system may comprise any number of end nodes (e.g., channel adapters, network interface adapters) and routing nodes (e.g., switches), and the method may be implemented by a processor coupled to any node. Each node in a network may be a member of the multicast group and/or the multicast tree (MCT) that routes the group's multicast communications. A node need not be a member of the group to be a member of the tree. Network links included in the multicast tree (MCT) are a subset of a network minimum spanning tree (MST). When a node is added to the group, the minimum spanning tree (MST) is searched from that node until a node within the multicast tree (MCT) is found. Each time a member is removed from the group, the multicast tree (MCT) is pruned to reduce unneeded communications.